

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 HA-05 MCT-01 SY-05 /070 W
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R 091135Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6740
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2916

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, US
SUBJECT: DAVIES TRIAL: REDUCTION OF SENTENCES POSSIBLE

REF: NICOSIA 2769

1. SUPREME COURT HEARING OF APPEAL BY DEFENDANTS IN DAVIES
CASE WILL RESUME NOV 11. PROSECUTION PROBABLY WILL COMPLETE
ITS ARGUMENTS THAT DAY, AND COURT WILL HAND DOWN ITS RULING
SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

2. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PREDICT WITH CERTAINITY
HOW COURT WILL RULE, EMBASSY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS BEEN ATTENDING
HEARINGS BELIEVES, BASED ON COMMENTS JUDGES HAVE MADE, THAT
THERE IS REAL POSSIBILITY THAT SENTENCES MAY BE REDUCED ON
GROUNDS THAT EVIDENCE PRESENTED AT TRIAL WAS WEAK IN SOME
RESPECTS. THIS BELIEF IS STRENGTHENED BY COURT'S RECENT
COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCE IN KOUPPIS CASE BECAUSE
OF SIMILAR DOUBTS AS TO WHETHER EVIDENCE SUSTAINED SENTENCE
IMPOSED.

3. TO HELP FORESTALL POSSIBILITY OF COURT'S TAKING
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EASY COURSE OF REDUCING SENTENCES, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
DEPARTMENT CALL IN CYPRUS AMBASSADOR TO IMPRESS UPON HIM
NEGATIVE EFFECT ON US-CYPRUS RELATIONS WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM
ANY ATTENUATION OF ALREADY LIGHT SENTENCES IMPOSED ON TWO
DEFENDANTS.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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